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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76291

Hirofumi FUJIOKA, et al.

Allowed: January 28, 2005

Appln. No.: 10/609,476

Group Art Unit: 2813

Confirmation No.: 2217

Examiner: Stephen W. SMOOT

Filed: July 01, 2003

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2000-294752, published October 20, 2002.
2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2000-021874, published January 21, 2000.
3. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2002-164345, published June 7, 2002, previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement dated March 8, 2005.

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4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H07-161931, published June 23, 1995, previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement dated March 8, 2005.
5. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2000-164831, published June 16, 2000, previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement dated March 8, 2005.
6. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application Publication No. 2003-282722, published October 3, 2003, previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement dated March 8, 2005.
7. United States Patent Application Publication No. US 2002-0064927, published May 30, 2002.
8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H11-224938, published August 17, 1999.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for those indicated as being previously submitted.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d) is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/609,476

Atty. Docket No.: Q76291

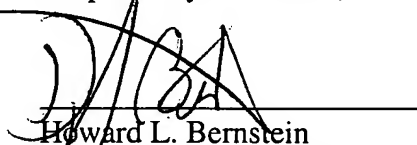
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated March 22, 2005, and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree for relevance found by the foreign office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant also encloses here with a copy of a corresponding Chinese Office Action dated March 25, 2005, and a complete English translation thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree for relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

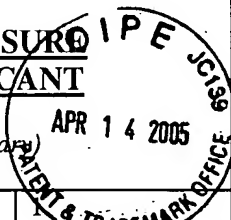
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 14, 2005

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/609,476
				Confirmation Number	2217
				Filing Date	July 01, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Hirofumi FUJIOKA
				Art Unit	2813
				Examiner Name	Stephen W. SMOOT
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q76291

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 2002/0064927	A1	05-30-2002	Lee et al.
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2000-294752	A	10-20-2000		
		JP	2000-021874	A	01-21-2000		
		JP	2002-164345	A	06-07-2002		
		JP	H07-161931	A	06-23-1995		
		JP	2000-164831	A	06-16-2000		
		JP	2003-282722	A	10-03-2003		
		JP	H11-224938	A	08-17-1999		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

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For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

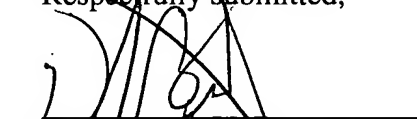
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

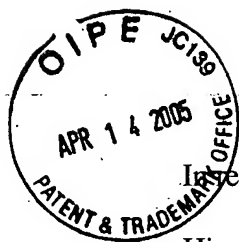
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

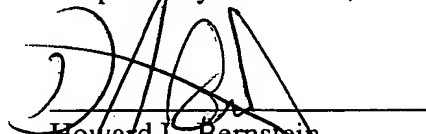
Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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